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12/19/00
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Brown et al.
Application No.: Not assigned yet
Filed: Concurrently herewith
For: IMPROVED LONGITUDINALLY FLEXIBLE
EXPANDABLE STENT
Examiner: Not assigned yet
Group Art Unit: Not assigned yet

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-9397

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before calculating the filing fee and beginning examination of this application,
please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 1, please delete lines 3-4 and replace them with the following text:

--This application is a continuation of US Application No. 09/122,431 filed on
July 24, 1998 which is a continuation of US Application No. 08/511,076, filed August 3, 1995
which is a continuation-in-part of US Application No. 08/396,569, filed March 1, 1995, the
contents of all of which are incorporated herein in their entirety by reference.--

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-15.

Please add new claims 16-35 as follows:

--16.(New) A stent in a non-expanded state, comprising:

a first expansion strut pair including a first expansion strut positioned adjacent to a
second expansion strut and a joining strut of the first expansion strut pair that couples the first
and second expansion struts at a distal end of the first expansion strut pair, a plurality of the first
expansion strut pair forming a first expansion column;